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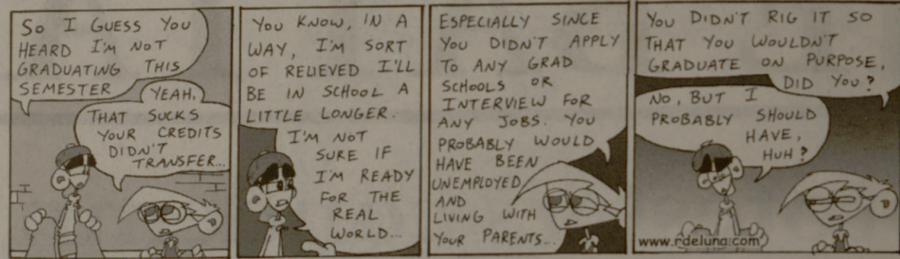
Russell Huie
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MAY 1st
12-4pm Law/Purveyer Field
(Next to All-Faiths Chapel)

MSC **Town Hall**

FREE DRINKS!!!!

Fish



by R. DeLuna

Protest

Continued from page 1A

Dorms

Continued from page 1A

to gather and cook. Due to the positive response this study lounge received and the demand for gathering areas, kitchen areas have been placed in Schuhmacher and Legett halls and one will be placed in Keathley Hall this summer, Sasse said.

Clements and Lechner halls will also be renovated to include a lounge area to connect the two halls.

To accommodate the student interest in private bedrooms and private baths, Hughes Hall will hold a trial suite facility with one floor for women and one floor for men, Sasse said.

The residence hall will hold one person in each bedroom with a shared bathroom. This suite type of residence will limit the shared bathroom to two people.

Davis-Gary, Moses, Crocker and Moore halls will have in-hall laundry facilities. Fire and safety improvements will con-

continue in those halls. Fire alarms have been updated in each residence hall, and sprinkler systems will be put in.

A new Residence Life and Student Services Building is

“Residence Life has and will continue to renovate each residence hall to meet the demands of the students.”

— Ron Sasse
 ResLife director

scheduled to open in the summer of 2004 at a Northside location. The first two floors of the new building will be given to Residence Life for offices and the third floor to Student Counseling Services.

The extended wing of this

building will contain the student area. This section will house the Residence Hall Association councils and organizations, a kitchen, 24-hour help desk, computer room, conference room and possibly an amphitheater.

“The idea is that the building resemble the YMCA Building and resemble the facilities of the Commons on the Southside,” Sasse said.

In the future, the Department of Residence Life hopes to convert the corridor-style residence halls into two-room apartments, holding a bedroom shared by two people and a living room. The department also hopes to build a covered pavilion on Northside to hold outdoor residence hall programs.

More than \$2.5 million will go to renovations each summer. There will be upgrades in furniture, painting, lighting and fire alarms. Sasse said he hopes to increase the amount of money toward these renovations each summer.

Debt

Continued from page 1A

4.3 percent in March 2001, and the unemployment rates for Texas are nearly identical. In Texas, rates are slightly more optimistic, with Houston's unemployment rate for March holding steady at 5.1 percent.

“Obviously, unemployment has gone up,” said A&M economics professor Dennis Jansen. “It's going to be harder for graduates to find employment this year.”

Other factors involving problems with Enron Corp. and accounting firm Arthur Andersen will have short-term effects on the local job market, Jansen said.

Senior aerospace engineering major Brian Mente is graduating this spring with a loan to pay off and no job lined up to help pay for it.

“I know that just out of graduating seniors in aerospace, most are going to graduate school because jobs are scarce,” Mente said. “These are tough times to be graduating.”

He plans to continue sending resumes and interview with small engineering companies in search for a job, but said that there are other options for unemployed graduates with loans to

pay, such as the community service program, Americorps.

Created in 1993, the Americorps program places volunteers in locations throughout the country working in education, public safety, health and environment for a 10- to 12-month period. Full-time volunteers receive \$4,725 to go toward college, graduate school or repayment of student loans in addition to training, loan deferment and an annual living allowance of \$9,300.

Taking out a loan for school has been a worthwhile investment for graduating biomedical science major Shane Lechler.

“People take out a loan for a house or a car in a heartbeat but aren't as apt to take one out for higher education,” Lechler said.

A certified pharmaceutical technician working at a Wal-Mart pharmacy, Lechler plans to attend a four-year program in the pharmacy school at the University of Houston and become a clinical pharmacist.

Jansen said the issue facing graduates is not necessarily finding employment, but rather finding the job they really want and that provides the pay they would like.

He said the job market should not get any worse than it currently is and slowly will begin to improve over the coming year as the economy comes out of recession and into recovery.

Veterinarians

Continued from page 1A

“We have deployed to all parts of the world,” he said. “In the last two years, we did humanitarian missions in Alaska, several South American countries, Africa and more.”

Despite his extensive training, there are still parts of the job that Carter finds difficult.

“The hardest part,” he said, “is working with poor communications in adverse conditions. There is also a constant threat of hostile fire and kidnapping.”

Carter said although some of the people he interacts with speak English, there is a lan-

guage barrier that hinders communication.

“The primary language spoken in the theatre is Arabic, and this can be a problem as none of us are fluent in this language,” he said. “But there are interpreters available in some locations.”

Because of the specialized nature of his mission, Carter is relocated frequently.

“There are many more bases with dogs than we have veterinarians to cover them,” he said.

“In addition, my veterinarians must inspect any vendor supplying food for the troops, so we move around a lot.”

Carter said he is honored to

serve his country and enjoys the unique experience of traveling with the military.

“There is a sense of adventure in being immersed in a new, complex and interesting set of cultures,” he said. “Many of us have been in more than five countries since arriving in early February.”

Carter said his unit likely will return to the United States in a few months, if replacements are found.

“We are all looking forward to reacquainting ourselves with our families and friends,” he said. “We want to return to our jobs and once again be productive in the civilian sector.”

“We were surprised by the reaction,” said Abercrombie Fitch spokesperson Paul Carney. “But once we were aware of the fact that we were offending people, we removed them from the Website.”

Carney would not say the type of diversity and training currently offered for Abercrombie employees, but assured that proper steps will be taken to address the issue.

“You will not find anything to offend the community ever again,” Carney said.

Carney said it would be mature to say that Abercrombie would meet some of the demands because efforts have been made removing the shirts from stores and replying to customers.

“We will call back every son who has called or emailed,” he said.

About 150 complaints yet to be addressed, he said. Tran said he has not received a personal response from the company.

Saturday, more than 100 University of Houston students and University of Texas students representing numerous ties protested at Galleria mall.

Houston protest coordinator Stephen Chao said the protesters alerted of the protest by an extra security presence by a group peacefully handing out 1,100 fliers and receiving negative feedback from passersby.

“Racism is something that affects everybody, this is not an Asian issue,” Chao said. Post Oak Mall Abercrombie store manager Chris Carney said the shirts are no longer for sale in College Station since the uproar began last week, many shoppers are still for the shirts.

Cernosek said the store's office has alerted them of the possibility of protests, but would not comment on the store's policy regarding the shirts. Tran said protests are planned to ensure that a line of discriminatory female T-shirts come out next season and make the shelves.

The protest Websites Asian graphics perpetuate stereotypical stereotypes.

Tran explained that the stereotype of Asians as laborers come from the late 19th century when Chinese immigrants were discriminated against and forced into menial labor work clothes of the transcontinental railroad men.

He also said the “Bash” shirt makes fun of Buddhist religion followed by 15 percent of the Chinese population.

The protest site www.cottaf.com explains the “love long time” quote from “Pizza Dojo” shirt is a reference to a prostitute's line in Stanley Kubrick's cult film, *Full Metal Jacket*, where a Vietnamese prostitute seduces an American GI.

Tran said the T-shirt associated all Asians with the stereotype. “In the year 2002, we shouldn't be facing these issues,” Tran said. “Abercrombie is trying to put us back to our past.”

Abercrombie has previously been targeted by conservative groups for young, scantily-clad models posed provocatively in catalogues. In 1988, *Mothers Against Drunk Driving* produced an advertisement titled “Drinking 101” that listed alcohol recipes.

THE BATTALION

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